

Finance Committee Minutes

January 31st 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:07PM with Mr. David Herrick presiding, with Mr. Bill Hattendorf, Mr. Burt Imberman, Mr. Ira Yohalem, and Mrs. Prudence Spaulding in attendance. Guests were Mr. Michael Skorput, Mr. Nathaniel Yohalem, and Ms. Tara White.

The minutes for January 24th 2013 were accepted as read. Mr. Herrick 1st, Mr. Imberman 2nd passed unanimously.

The following budgets were reviewed:-

Town Counsel [10124.00] (\$8,500) level funded {\$8,500} Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

Board of Health Clerical [70510.02] (\$5,000) level funded {\$5,000} this budget provides for two people to do the clerical work! {\$5,000} Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Hattendorf 2nd passed unanimously.

Hatchery Road Loan [80750.12] (\$26,975) now requesting {\$25,099} this will be the final payment on this loan. Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Hattendorf 2nd passed unanimously.

Grant Writer Expenses [10137.01] (\$500) level funded {\$500} this budget is used to provide materials for those in the town who write grants. Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Hattendorf 2nd passed unanimously.

Grant Writer's Salary [10137.00] (\$5,000) level funded {\$5,000} this account is used to pay for those people in the town who write grants (often from different departments). Mr. Hattendorf 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

Transfer Station Repairs [70519.04] (\$15,000) level funded {\$15,000} this budget request generated some discussion, the committee wanted to know exactly what repairs were needed and what the estimate on the various repairs was. The committee also wanted to know if the sum of money allotted to this account last year had been spent, and if so how it was spent. Mr. Skorput stated that he knew that the funds in last year's budget were somewhat intact, and he expected that the repairs would use that money plus this allotted money. The committee put this budget **ON HOLD** and asked Mr. Skorput to present estimates for the repairs needed.

Transfer Station Expenses [70519.03] (\$62,500) now requesting {\$60,000} this account is used to pay the "hauling" fees. While the recyclables do generate some funds these funds are not enough to change the amount needed for the hauling of the garbage! Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

Audit [10134.44] (\$8,000) level funded [\$8,000] the money in this account is kept and put together with similar funds from two years and to pay for the audits of the town's books. Mr. Hattendorf 1st, Mr. Herrick 2nd passed unanimously.

Veteran's District [6025.00] (\$5,712) now requesting {\$5,684} this account pays for New Marlborough's share (established by the latest census figures) of the Veteran's benefits. Mr. Yohalem 1st, Mrs. Spaulding 2nd passed unanimously.

Tax Collector's Expenses [10147.99] (\$4,200) level funded {\$4,200} this account was itemized. Mr. Hattendorf 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

Tax Collector Computer Services [10146.02] (\$6,500) level funded {\$6,500} this account pays for Point Software computer program. Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Hattendorf 2nd passed unanimously.

Public Notice Boards [10194.05] (\$2,500) no funds requested no vote needed!

Town Hall Improvements [10194.00] (\$65,000) now requesting {\$45,000}. This request generated some discussion. This account will be used to improve the bathrooms etc. so that the town hall will meet the ADA codes. Mr. Hattendorf 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

Selectmen Expenses [10122.01] (\$3,700) now requesting {\$4,000} Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Hattendorf 2nd passed unanimously.

Contingent [10122.02] (\$3,000) level funded {\$3,000} this account pays for unexpected expenses of town personnel. Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Hattendorf 2nd passed unanimously.

Printing [10195.00] (\$2,700) level funded {\$2,700} Mr. Skorput stated this money was used for the printing of the annual town report. Mrs. Spaulding questioned whether the cost would rise and would this amount be adequate. Mr. Skorput stated that they had been assessing how many reports were needed, and he decided that this would be adequate. Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Hattendorf 2nd passed unanimously.

Plumbing Inspector Revolving [5506.00] (\$7,500) level funded {\$7,500} Mrs. Spaulding 1st Mr. Imberman 2nd passed unanimously.

Gas Inspector Revolving [5507.00] (\$5,000) level funded {\$5,000} Mr. Hattendorf 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

Electrical Inspector Revolving [5508.00] (\$7,500) level funded {\$7,500} Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

Stabilization [90100.00] (\$50,000) level funded {\$50,000} this budget generated some discussion. Mr. Nathaniel Yohalem (selectmen) reminded the committee that he had requested that they formulate a capital expenses plan with the ability to project the needed capital items for the next five or ten years and their cost. There was some question about how the bridges would fit into this plan, and he suggested that the committee formulate the plan without the bridges which are in need of massive repairs. But he stated that a capital expense plan that encompassed the remainder of the town departments would be very helpful to both the town personnel as well as the town voters. The committee will take this request under advisement. It may be that the \$50,000 should be increased! Meanwhile Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously. The committee members then were asked by Mr. Herrick to state the times when they would be unavailable to attend meetings. With this information the committee can plan to have a quorum at meetings.

Mr. Hattendorf was charged with keeping an account of the actual money approved each week. To date the Committee has approved budgets that total \$1,215,869.34! By having these figures the Committee will be able to assess the possibility of exceeding (or not!) 2 ½!

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 13th 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Prudence Spaulding, Secretary.

Prudence Spaulding
February 1st, 2013